Dear Co-Chair Winfield, Co-Chair Stafstrom, Vice Chair Flexer, Vice Chair Blumenthal, Ranking Member Kissel, Ranking Member Fishbein, and all members of the Judiciary Committee:

I find the majority of Senate Bill 16 to be a down right removal of U.S. citizens rights.

Governor Lamont feels that Connecticut has "too many damn guns" yet does almost nothing to punish the criminals that repeatedly break gun laws. Governor Lamont is focused on punishing the law-abiding citizens. Criminals are already getting away with crimes that should imprison them yet he does nothing to stop them. Governor Lamont needs to understand that people that aren't following the laws now, will not follow these laws or any future laws that may be put in place.

"Stop and Frisk" is also a violation of our rights. As the world moves into a less judgmental and more accepting place towards people of all kinds he proposes to enact a program that allows profiling and harassment. This is moving our state in reverse from what we have been trying to accomplish as a community.

The right to bear arms is written in the constitution. It was added to allow the U.S citizens to ensure the security of a free state. I assume all of you are in the position you are in because of your love of the United States as a child and young adult and that pushed you in the political direction. We must stand for those rights, not try to change and take away. People must be able to defend themselves from all threats to their lives and property. Taking our guns strips us of that right. Stripping us of our guns also doesn't allow us to defend ourselves from a tyrannical government. This is not the government you believed in and fell in love with. These laws and many more are hurting this country and...

I ask you to reject Senate Bill 16

I addition, I also **OPPOSE** H.B. No. 5416 – AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS.

I **SUPPORT** Raised S.B. No. 388 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR VEHICLE.

I **SUPPORT** Raised H.B. No. 5415 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES.

I **SUPPORT** Raised H.B. No. 5412 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

Sincerely,

Stephen Charton Middletown, CT